



WEEK ENDING 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2014

## KEY POINTS

### INFLUENZA AND INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESSES (ILI)

**Summary:** Non-influenza virus activity increased this week, but influenza activity remains low.

- ILI presentations to sentinel general practitioners (GPs) and emergency departments (EDs), and influenza notifications and hospital admissions remain low.
- Of the influenza viruses subtyped in the past week, 50% were influenza A/H1N1, but influenza A/H3N2 and influenza B viruses are also circulating.
- Detections of non-influenza respiratory viruses increased this week, particularly respiratory syncytial virus, rhinovirus, and adenovirus.

### GASTROENTERITIS

- Gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel GPs and EDs decreased this week and are within expected levels.

### VARICELLA AND VIRAL RASHES

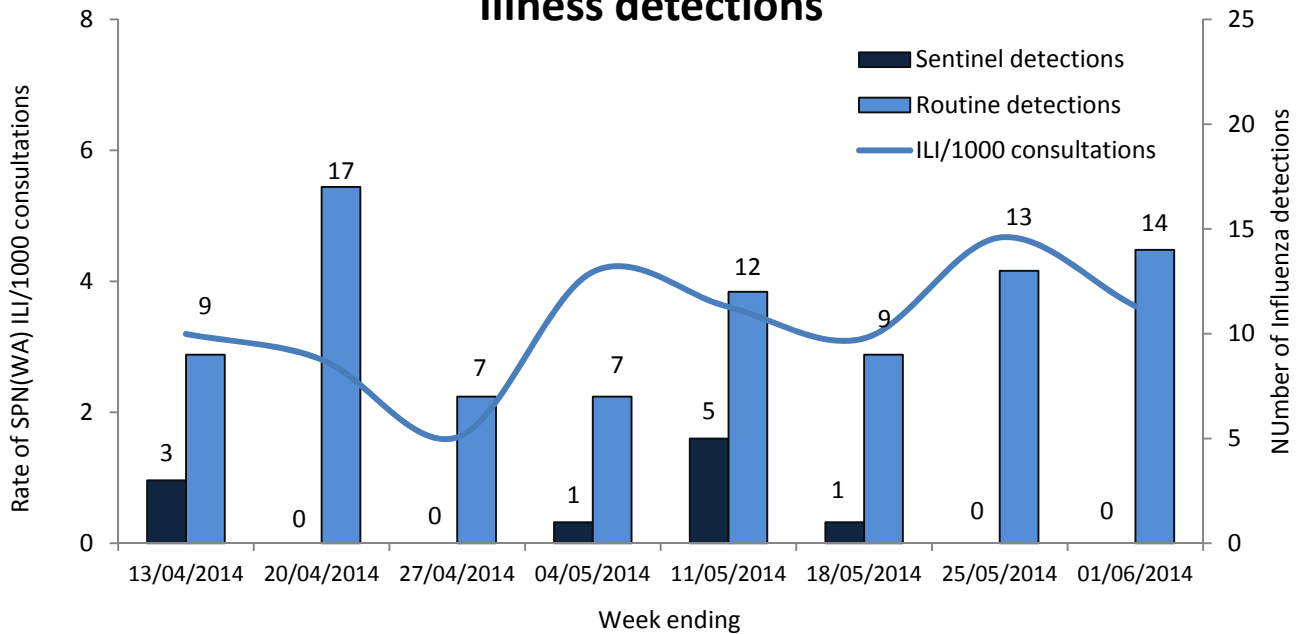
- Shingles presentations to sentinel GPs and EDs declined. Chickenpox presentations remain low.
- One possible case of mumps was reported in the previous week, and is under investigation.
- No cases of measles or rubella were notified this week.

Current and archived issues of Virus Watch [http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/3/487/3/virus\\_watch.pm](http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/3/487/3/virus_watch.pm)

*Virus Watch is a weekly electronic publication by the Communicable Disease Control Directorate (CDCD) and key collaborators. It provides a brief summary of General Practice and Hospital Emergency Department sentinel surveillance data on influenza-like illness, gastroenteritis and varicella-zoster disease, together with relevant laboratory information, to alert health care workers in WA to important circulating viruses. General Practice data are collected by members of the Sentinel Practitioners Network of Western Australia - SPN(WA). Emergency Department data are provided by the Emergency Department Information System (EDIS), which incorporates data from the following hospitals: Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Fremantle Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, King Edward Memorial Hospital, Bunbury Hospital, Armadale Hospital, Joondalup Health Campus, Swan District Hospital and Rockingham General Hospital. Viral laboratory data are obtained from PathWest laboratories at QEII Medical Centre and Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, as well as via notification data sent by all WA laboratories to CDCD, WA Department of Health. All figures and data were accurate at time of publication, but subject to change.*

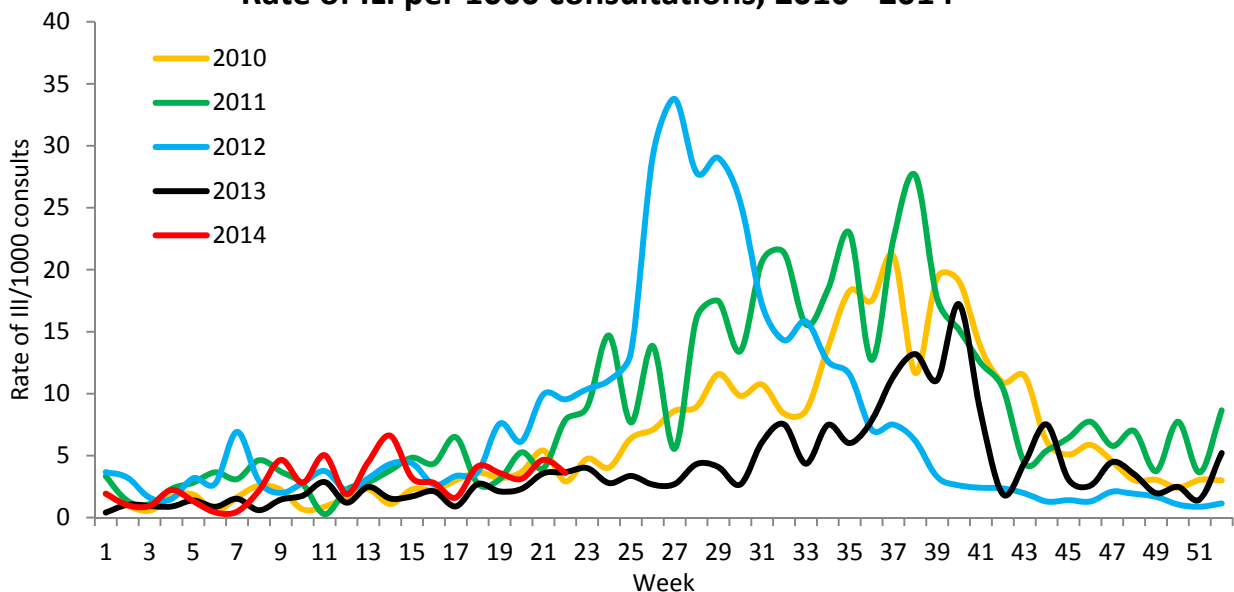
# Influenza and Influenza-like Illnesses

## Sentinel and Routine Influenza and Influenza-like-Illness detections



There was little change in the number of ILI presentations to sentinel GP practices this week, and none of the 17 swabs collected at sentinel practices tested positive for influenza virus; of 272 routinely collected specimens, 14 (5%) tested positive.

## Sentinel Practitioner Network of WA - GP surveillance Rate of ILI per 1000 consultations, 2010 - 2014

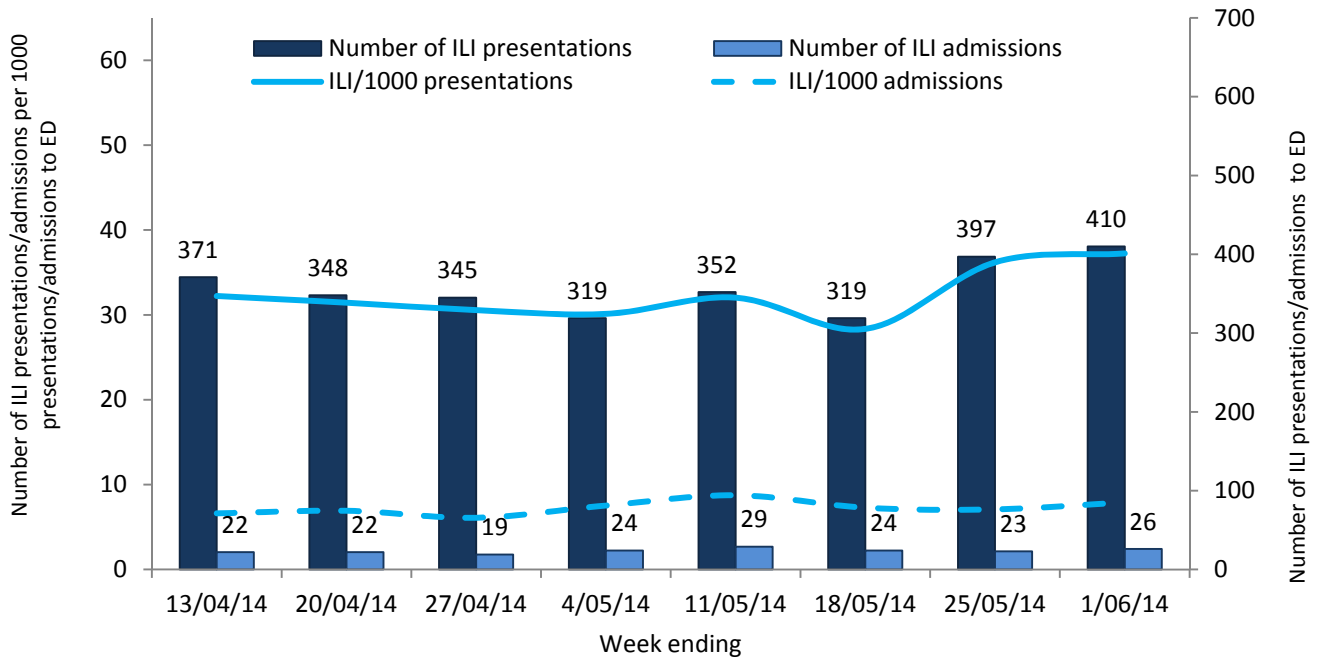


The rate of ILI presentations to SPN(WA) GPs remains near 4 cases per 1000 consultations this week, which is consistent with previous mild seasons.



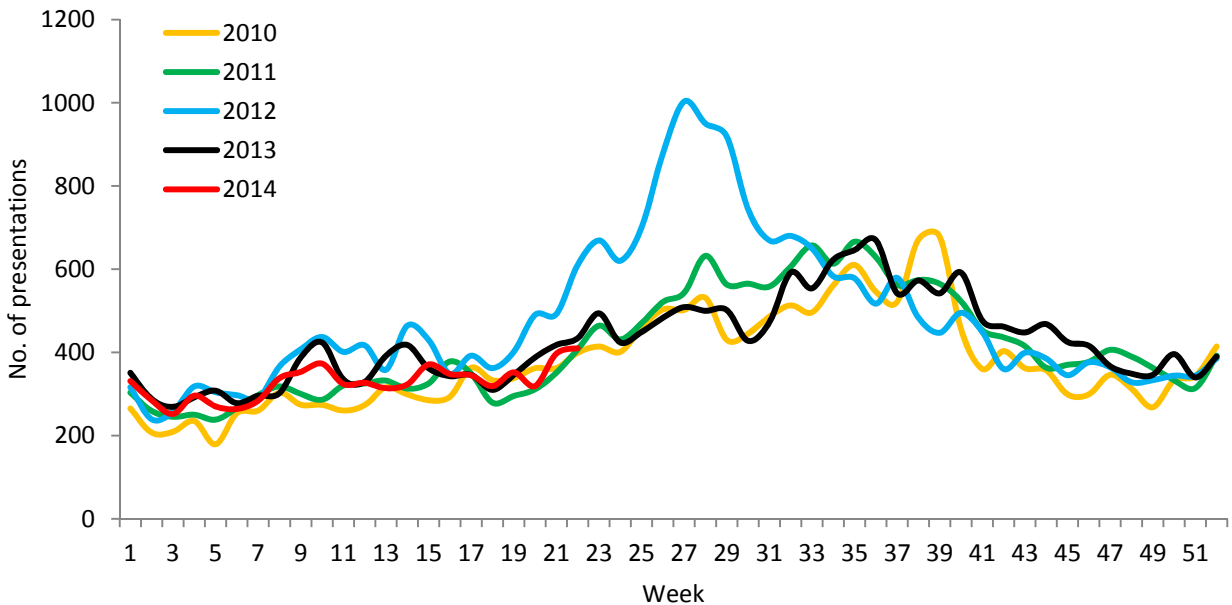
The following is a summary of current Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) data for respiratory viral presentations.

### Viral Respiratory ED Presentations and Admissions



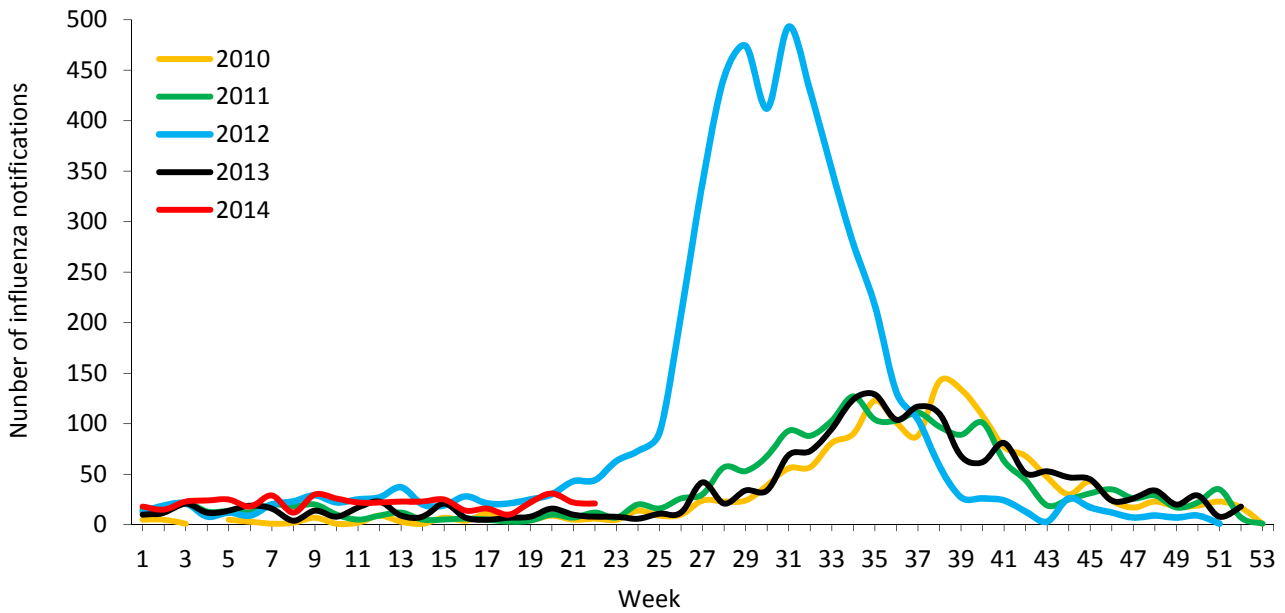
**ED presentations for a viral respiratory illness increased this week; the number of ED admissions remains low.**

### ED Respiratory Viral Presentations, 2010 - 2014



**The number of ILI presentations to sentinel EDs increased this week and is in the mid-range of values compared to the same time period in recent years.**

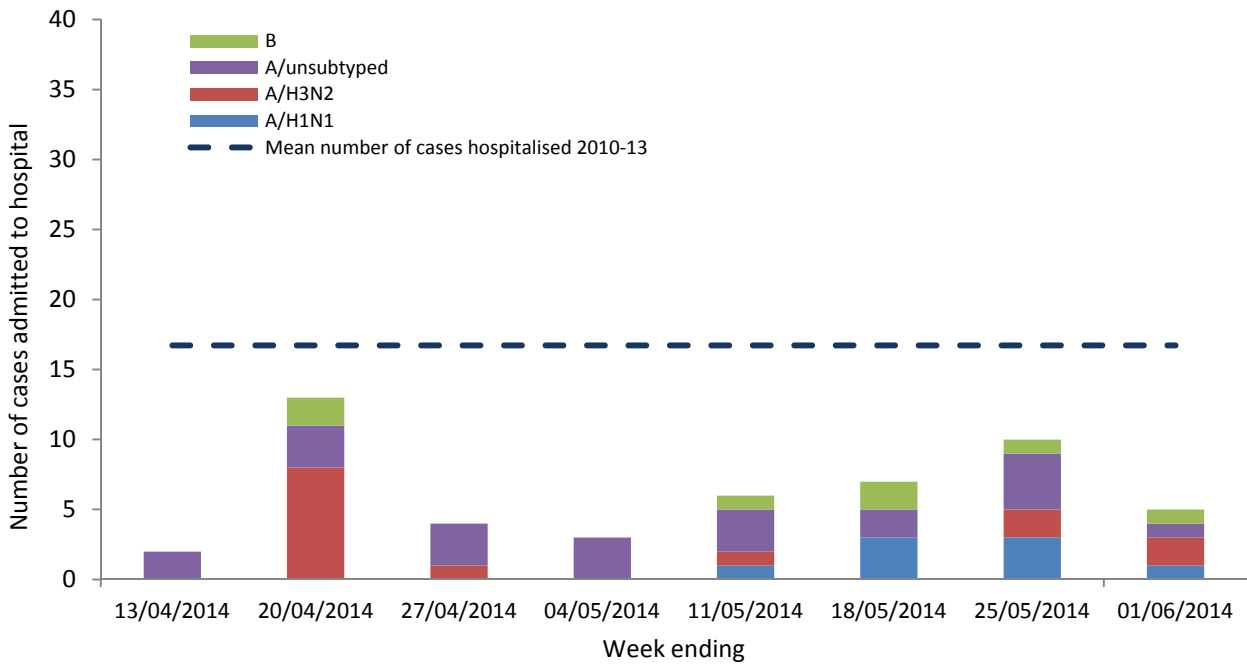
### Influenza notifications in Western Australia by week, 2010 to 2014



**Twenty-one confirmed influenza cases were reported to the Department of Health this week, which is similar to the number of notified cases last week.**

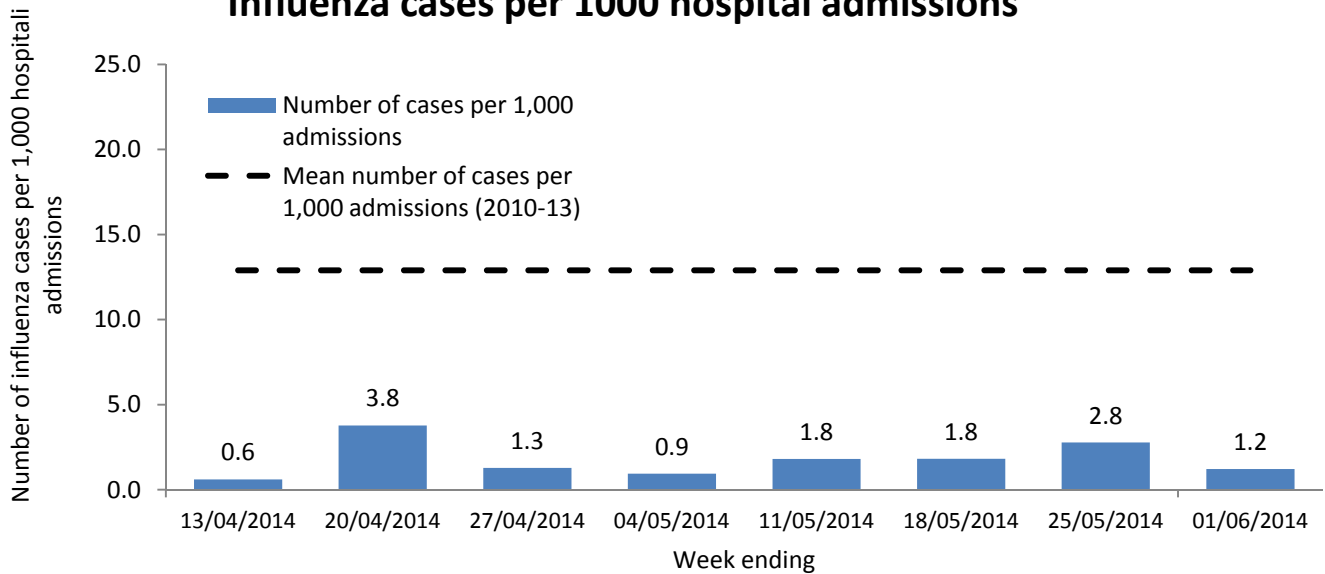
The graph is a summary of all influenza notifications received by the DoH, Western Australia to the end of the current reporting week, for which cases had date of symptom onset or specimen collection between 26/05/2014 and 01/06/2014.

### Number of influenza cases hospitalised



**Five notified influenza cases were hospitalised in the past week, 2 (40%) with influenza A/H3N2, 1 (20%) with influenza A/H1N1, 1 (20%) with influenza B, and 1 (20%) with influenza A/unsubtyped.**

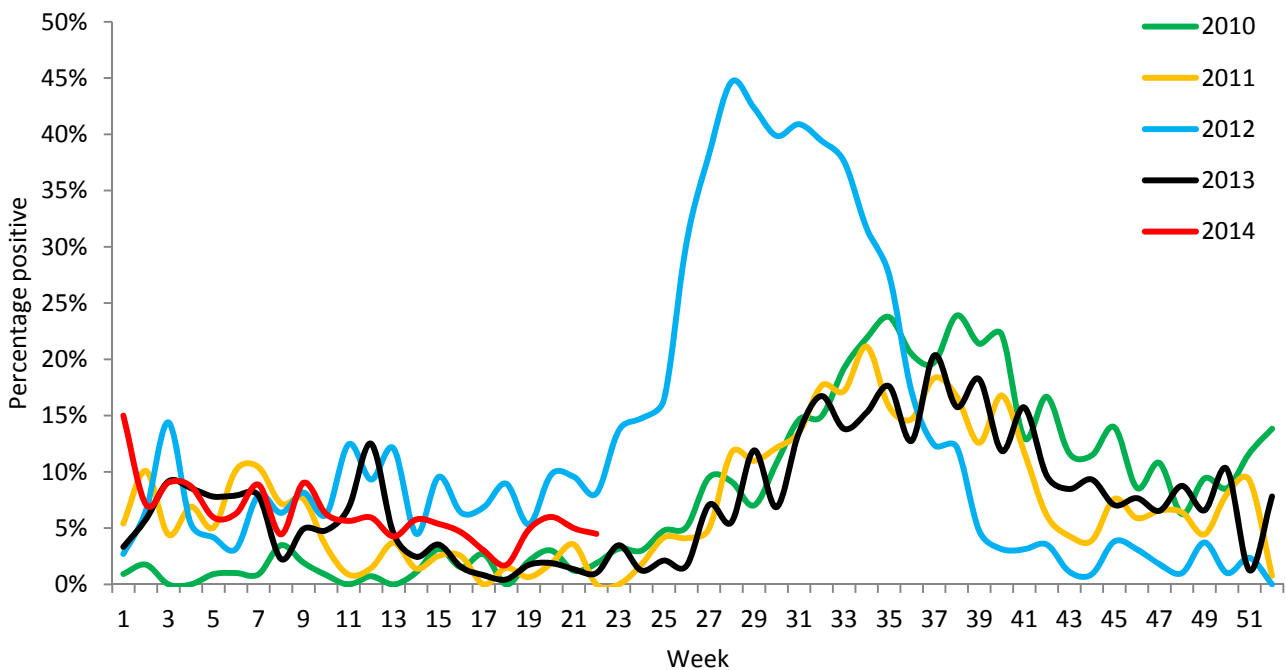
## Influenza cases per 1000 hospital admissions



**The proportion of hospital admissions notified as having laboratory-confirmed influenza remains low and well below baseline level.**

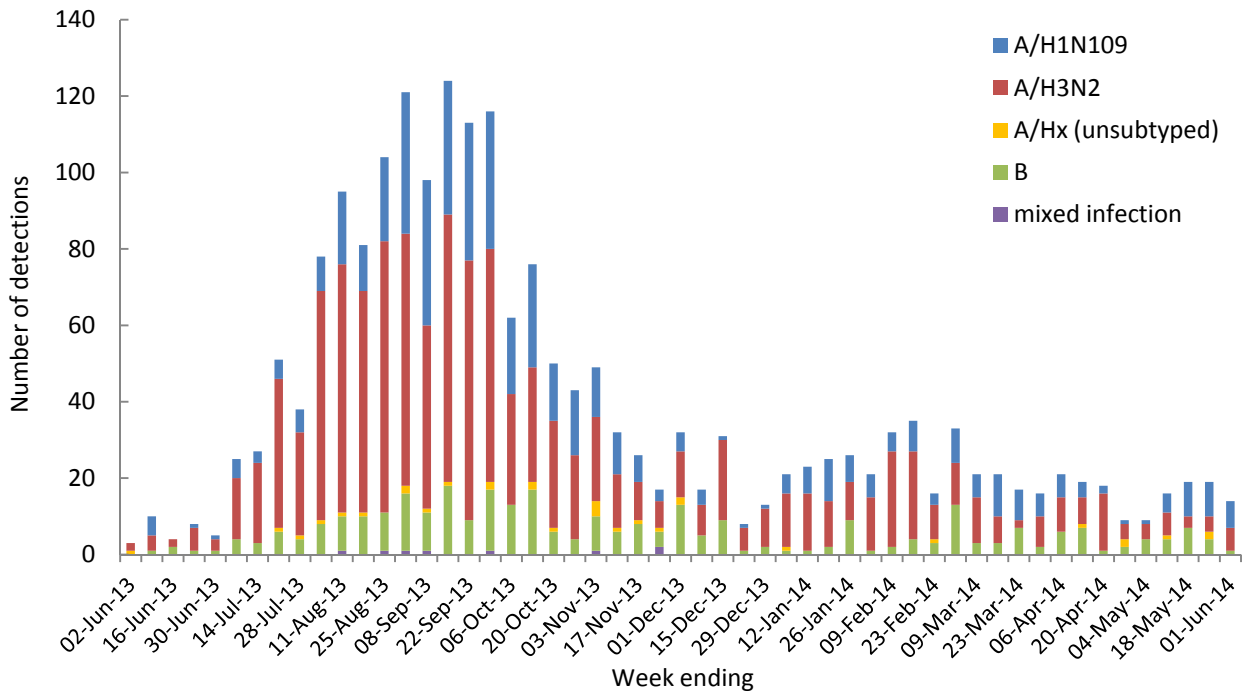
The graph is a summary of influenza notifications received by the DoH who were recorded as having a hospital admission, expressed per 1,000 admissions.

## PathWest-QEII-PMH influenza percentage positive 2010 - 2014



**Among samples tested at PathWest-QEII-PMH this week, 3.6% tested positive for influenza virus, which is similar to levels reported at this time during recent mild influenza seasons.**

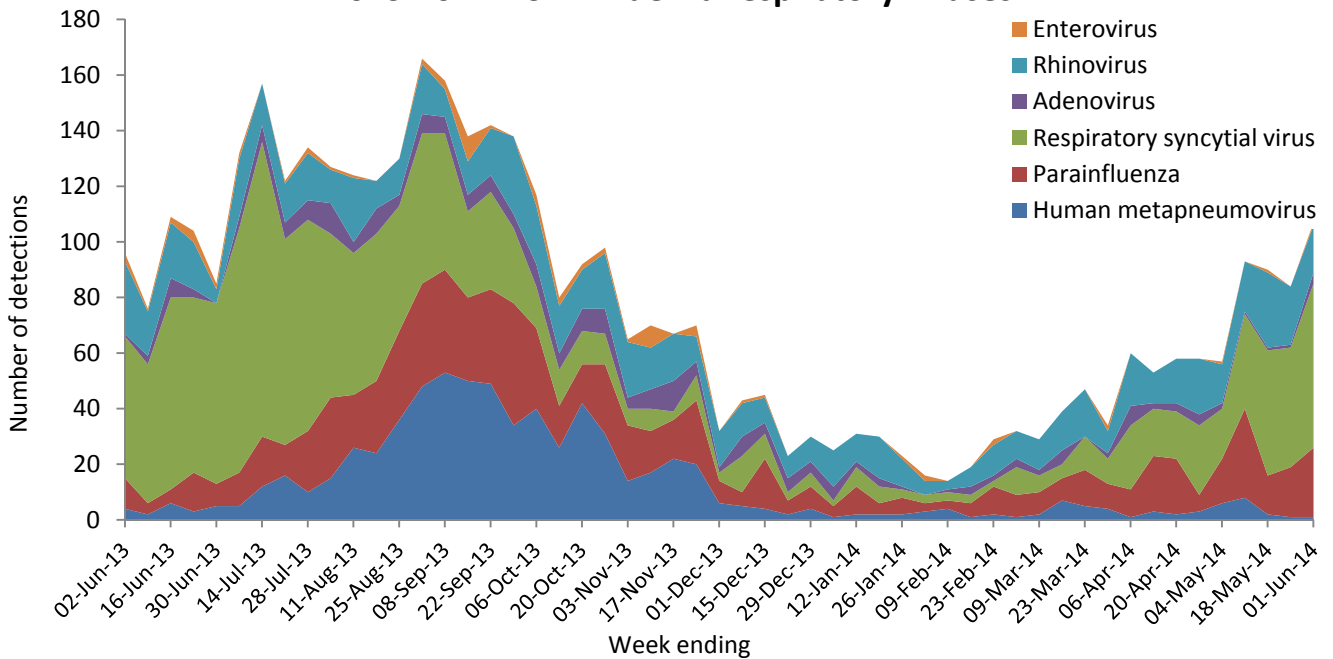
### PathWest-QEII-PMH 2013-2014 Influenza subtypes



**Fourteen influenza viruses were characterised by PathWest, QEII and PMH during this reporting week, comprising 7 (50%) influenza A/H1N1, 6 (43%) influenza A/H3N2, and 1 (7%) influenza B.**

The graph is a summary of all samples that have been recorded as subtyped at PathWest QEII as of 12.01am Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2014 and may differ from numbers described in the above figure.

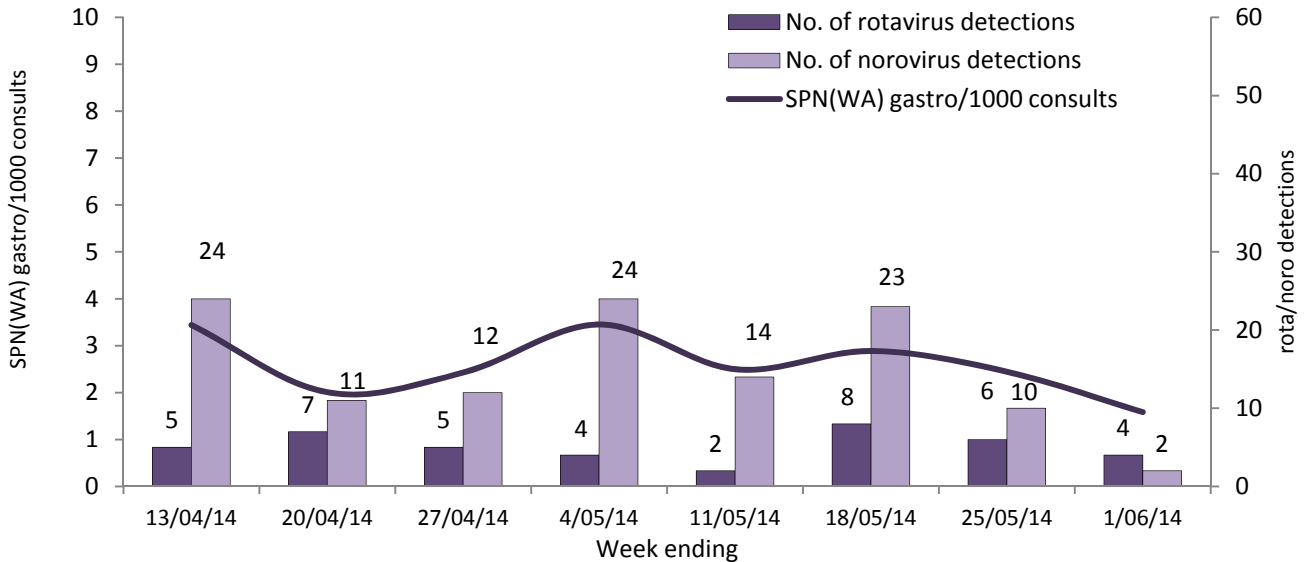
### 2013-2014 Non-Influenza respiratory viruses



**Detections of non-influenza respiratory viruses increased this week, with the exception of human metapneumovirus which decreased.**

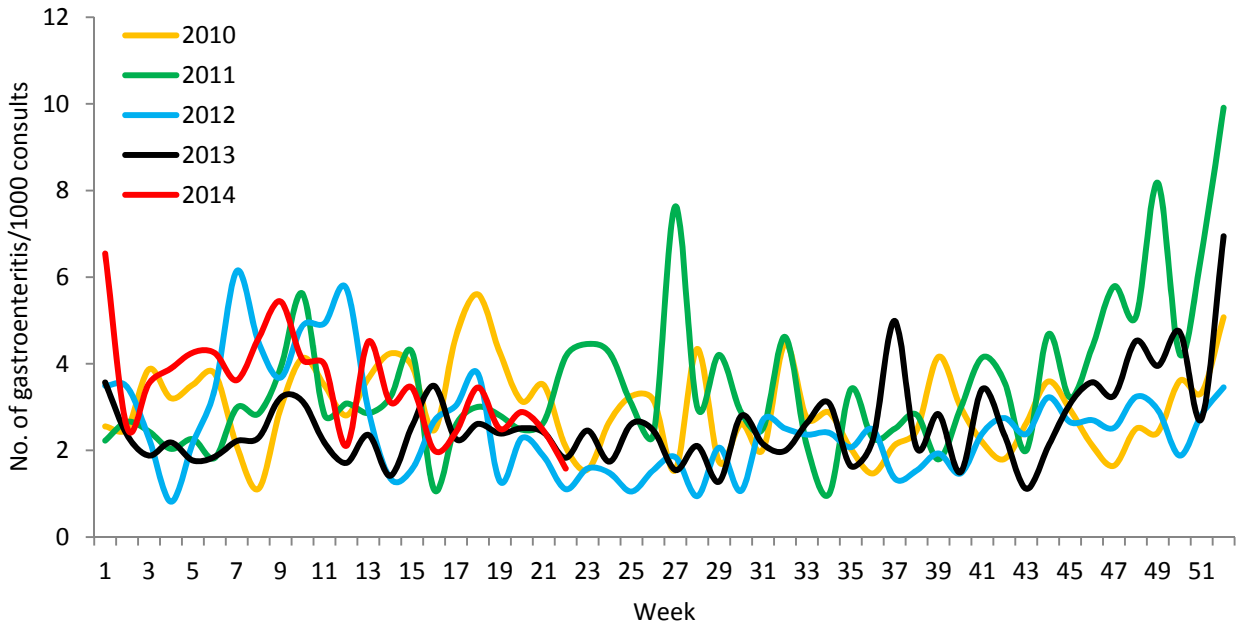
# Gastroenteritis

## Gastroenteritis



Gastroenteritis presentations decreased to 1 case per 1000 consultations. Norovirus and rotavirus detections also decreased this week.

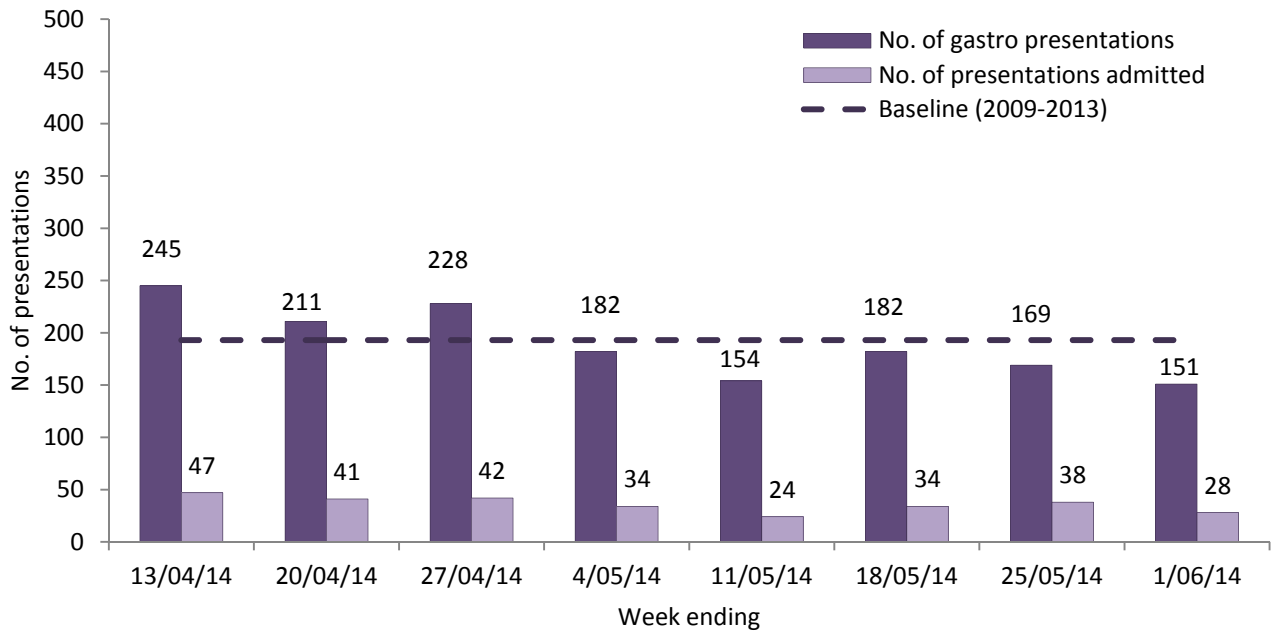
## Sentinel Practitioner's Network of WA SPN(WA) - GP surveillance Rate of gastroenteritis per 1000 consultations, 2010 - 2014



The rate of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel GPs is in the lower range of values compared to the same time period in recent years.

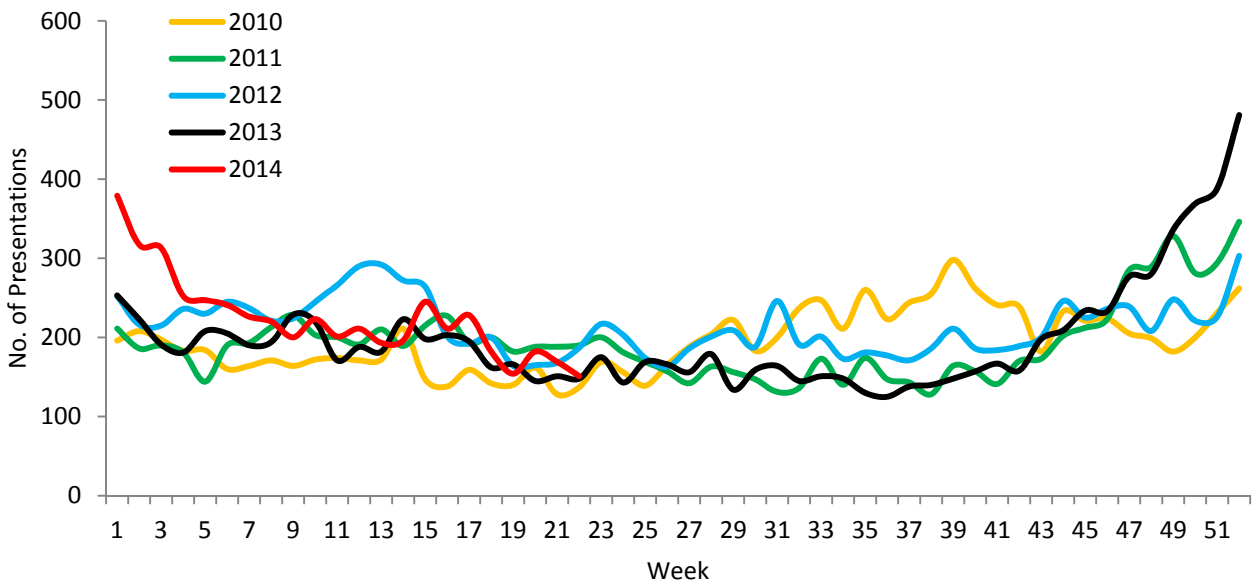
The following is a summary of current Emergency Department Sentinel Surveillance (EDSS) data for gastroenteritis presentations. Baseline levels for gastroenteritis presentations were calculated using the mean of weekly EDIS data from week 1, 2009 to week 52, 2013.

### Gastroenteritis ED Presentations



Gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel EDs remain below baseline this week.

### ED Gastroenteritis Presentations 2010 - 2014

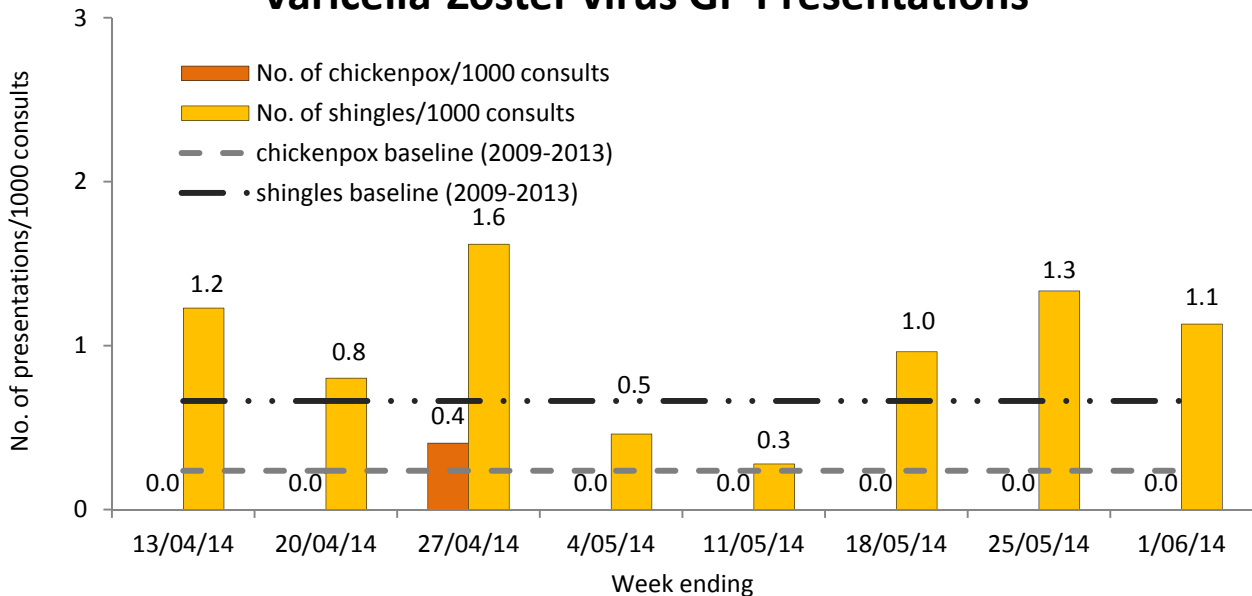


The number of gastroenteritis presentations to sentinel EDs decreased this week and remains consistent with the range of levels seen during this time period in previous years.



# Viral Rashes

## Varicella-Zoster virus GP Presentations

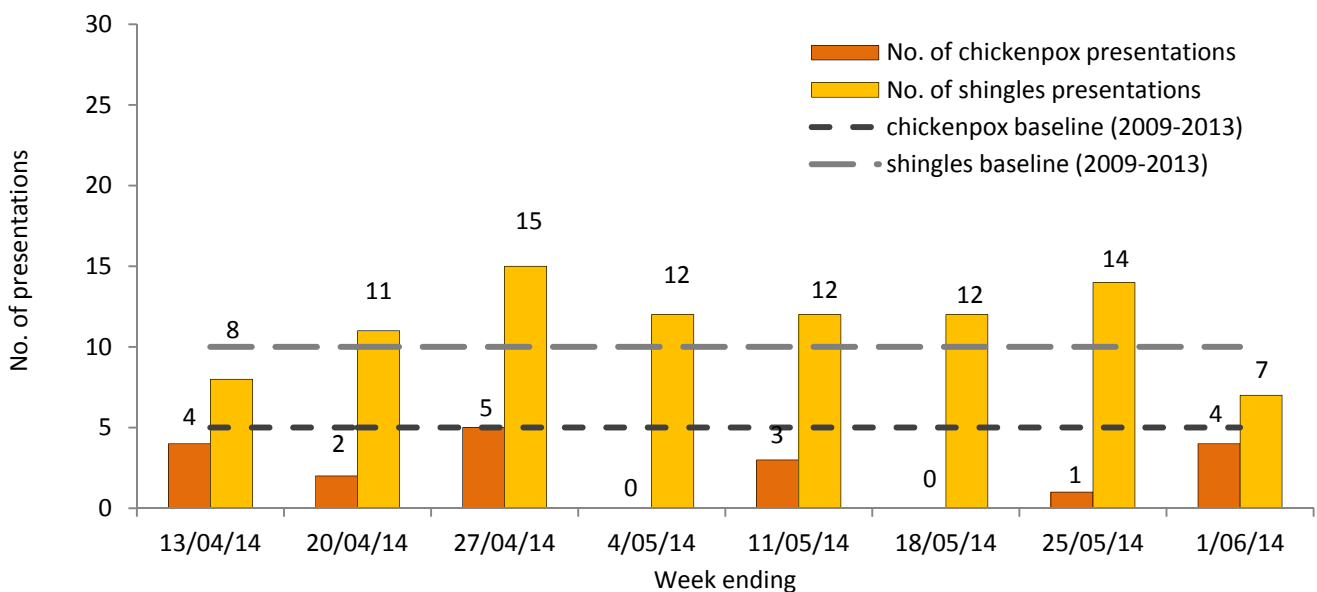


The rate of shingles presentations to SPN(WA) GPs remains above baseline level this week. No chickenpox cases were seen at sentinel GPs. One possible case of mumps was reported this week, and is under investigation. No cases of measles or rubella were notified.

Baseline levels for chickenpox and shingles presentations to SPN(WA) GPs per thousand consultations were calculated using the mean of weekly WA ASPREN data from week 1, 2009 to week 52, 2013.

The following is a summary of current Emergency Department sentinel surveillance (EDSS) data for varicella-zoster virus presentations. Baseline levels for varicella-zoster virus presentations were calculated using the mean of weekly EDIS data from week 1, 2009 to week 52, 2013.

## Varicella-Zoster virus ED Presentations



Shingles presentations to sentinel EDs decreased below baseline level. Chickenpox presentations increased but remain below baseline level.

